

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-23 (canceled).

1 Claim 24 (currently amended): A method of scheduling a hard copy
2 output engine event, comprising:

3 providing a hard copy output engine comprising:

4 a sensor;

5 a processor; and

6 a memory;

7 sensing status information of a plurality of hard copy output engine
8 events;

9 processing the status information, wherein the processing includes
10 comparing the status information to information housed in the memory to
11 determine if any ~~of the~~ recipients should be appointed to a task corresponding to
12 an event; and

13 appointing a recipient to a task, the appointing comprising:
14 composing an electronic message to the recipients that includes the status
15 information; ~~and~~

16 transmitting the electronic message from the hard copy output
17 engine to a scheduling engine;

18 tasking the recipient; and

19 updating the status of the task.

1 Claim 25 (previously presented): The method of claim 24, wherein the
2 status information includes at least one of a toner low or toner out status.

1 Claim 26 (previously presented): The method of claim 24, wherein
2 information comprises one or more of percentage of remaining consumable, blind
3 carbon copy to, copy to, company addressed to, expected completion date,
4 defer until, due date, duration, event address, expiration date, follow-up flag,
5 importance, owner, priority, return receipt request status, remind beforehand,
6 reminder, reminder override default, required attendee list, resources, sensitivity,
7 date sent, start date, addressee, tracking status, consumables order list,
8 maintenance items, malfunction and preventative maintenance items.

1 Claim 27 (previously presented): The method of claim 24, wherein the
2 plurality of events comprises one or more of toner out, toner low, preventative
3 maintenance alerts, including cleaning or replacement of component parts,
4 consumables orders, internal billing dates for job accounting, external billing
5 dates for job accounting, low paper, out of paper, low consumables, out of
6 consumables, and need maintenance.

1 Claim 28 (previously presented): The method of claim 24, wherein the
2 hard copy output engine is chosen from a group consisting of: facsimile
3 machines, photocopiers and printers.

1 Claim 29 (previously presented): The method of claim 24, wherein the
2 electronic message includes a consumable order.

1 Claim 30 (previously presented): The method of claim 24, wherein at
2 least one of the plurality of events comprises a future need for preventative
3 maintenance.

Claims 31-37 (cancelled).

1 Claim 38 (currently amended): A computer implemented hard copy
2 output engine control system, the system comprising:
3 a plurality of sensors adapted to be coupled to a hard copy output engine,
4 the sensors being configured to provide status information relating to a plurality
5 of aspects of the hard copy output engine; and
6 processing circuitry coupled to the sensors, the processing circuitry
7 configured to:
8 read the sensors and detect the status of the aspects of the hard
9 copy output engine;
10 selectively look up from a memory recipients corresponding to the
11 aspects; ~~and~~
12 schedule the recipients, the scheduling comprising composing an
13 electronic message that includes a description of the aspect and
14 appointing the recipient to address the aspect, wherein the appointing
15 comprises tasking the recipient; and
16 updating the status of the task.

1 Claim 39 (previously presented): The computer implemented control
2 system of claim 38, wherein the aspect comprises toner amount.

1 Claim 40 (previously presented): The computer implemented hard copy
2 output engine control system of claim 38, wherein the electronic message
3 comprises the one or more of a percentage of remaining consumable, blind
4 carbon copy to, copy to, company addressed to, expected completion date,
5 defer until, due date, duration, event address, expiration date, follow-up flag,
6 importance, owner, priority, return receipt request status, remind beforehand,
7 reminder, reminder override default, required attendee list, resources, sensitivity,
8 date sent, start date, addressee, tracking status, consumables order list,
9 maintenance items, malfunction and preventative maintenance items.

1 Claim 41 (previously presented): The computer implemented hard copy
 2 output engine control system of claim 38, wherein individual ones of the aspects
 3 of the hard copy output engine include one of more of toner out, toner low,
 4 preventative maintenance alerts, including cleaning or replacement of component
 5 parts, consumables orders, low paper, out of paper, low consumables, out of
 6 consumables, and need maintenance.

1 Claim 42 (previously presented): The computer implemented hard copy
 2 output engine control system of claim 38, wherein the processing circuitry is
 3 further configured to detect a status of a hard copy output engine chosen from a
 4 group consisting of: facsimile machines, photocopiers and printers.

1 Claim 43 (previously presented): The computer implemented hard copy
 2 output engine control system of claim 38, wherein the processing circuitry is
 3 further configured to detect a future need for preventative maintenance.

Claims 44-49 (cancelled).

1 Claim 50 (previously presented): The computer implemented control
 2 system of claim 38, wherein the processing circuitry is further configured to
 3 detect a future need for cleaning or replacement of a component part.

Claims 51-58 (cancelled).

1 Claim 59 (currently amended): The method of claim ~~58~~ 24 wherein the
 2 updating comprises calendaring acceptance or declination of a task.

Claims 60-61 (cancelled).

1 Claim 62 (currently amended): The ~~method~~ computer implemented hard
 2 copy output engine control system of claim ~~64~~ 38, wherein the updating
 3 comprises calendaring acceptance or declination of the task.